

**REMARKS**

The present Amendment is in response to the Official Action mailed October 19, 2007. Claim 1 has been amended. Therefore, claims 1-14, 17, 18, and 20-23 remain currently pending. The following sets forth Applicants' comments relating to currently pending claims and the Action.

As an initial matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for taking the time on September 7, 2007 to discuss this matter with their undersigned counsel. In that discussion, Applicants' counsel agreed to amend independent claim 1 in accordance with suggestions made by the Examiner in the Action. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to clearly define the elongate slot as having a length and a width, where the length is greater than the width. As was indicated by the Examiner in both the Action and the aforementioned telephone discussion, independent claim 1, as amended, now constitutes allowable subject matter.

Given the Examiner's admission that a claim which reads in accordance with the above amended independent claim 1 constitutes allowable subject matter, Applicants will not discuss any of the rejections set forth in the outstanding Action. Because of the allowability of independent claim 1, Applicants note that its dependent claims are also allowable. A dependent claim is necessarily narrower than an independent claim from which it properly depends. Applicants also point out that the Examiner has either indicated as allowable or simply not rejected each of the remaining claims. As such, in light of all of the above, Applicants respectfully request the present case be moved into a condition of allowance.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of

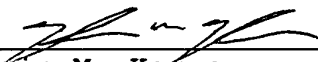
the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: September 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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